

*\$300,000, if signed into law, will support university's Aquaculture Research and Education Center*

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**MEDIA, PA** — Congressman Joe Sestak (PA-07) announces the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee's inclusion of \$300,000 funding he requested to support the Aquaculture Research and Education Center (AREC) at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania. AREC had previously received funding in Fiscal Year 2009.

"I am happy to again support this important education, economic, and environmental resource for the region," said Congressman Sestak. "This funding will help build up the great work already being done that has led to a strong, positive reputation of the Center and the University. It also recognizes the need of not only providing world-class education, but to build the industries and jobs that then keep our young people here in Pennsylvania and build up our economy."

AREC was established to meet the educational, extension, and research needs of this region and its critical waterways. In keeping with its mission, AREC, in partnership with Herban Farms, LLC, seeks to produce a trained workforce in the areas of aquaculture and aquaponics. The Center helps meet the strategic plan developed by the United States Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture (JSA) which states that there is a need for expanded research and development within our country if the US is to become a leader in aquaculture development. The Strategic Plan also cites the need for expanded and improved education and extension programs whereby new and promising research results can be communicated to students, consumers, and industry representatives.

Founded in 1837, Cheyney University of Pennsylvania is America's oldest historically Black institution of higher education. Its mission is to prepare confident, competent, reflective, visionary leaders and responsible citizens.

The project now needs approval by the full Appropriations Committee, the full House of Representatives, and the conference process with the Senate before it goes to the President to be signed into law.

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*Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University.□ According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.*

